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15 DEC 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Acting Deputy Director for Administration

FROM: Robert W. Gambino
Director of Security

SUBJECT: Treasury Request for COMINT Access

REFERENCE: SC-01627-77, dated 6 December 1977,
same Subject

1. Action Requested: The Treasury Department has requested, with the concurrence of the SIGINT Committee and the Acting Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence Community, authorization for the addition of six COMINT access approvals above the current total.

2. Background: As the utilization of sensitive intelligence products in those agencies outside the traditional military/foreign policy areas increases, there will be a legitimate need for modest increases in access approvals. The addition of six additional COMINT approvals to the Treasury Department's existing total of 145 does not appear unreasonable.

If we are to continue a regime of strict control over SCI access approvals, some mechanism must be evolved to avoid excessive and cost ineffective staff work over minor requests for increases. The most logical approach would seem to be a billet structure for each agency, subject to annual DCI review, at which time requests for

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SC-05088-77

increases would be considered. The subject of building a Community-wide billet structure is a subject that will be addressed soon in separate correspondence to the DCI.

In view of the DCI's efforts to insure that intelligence is utilized in the most cost-effective manner, the additional six COMINT approvals for the Office of the Secretary of the Treasury seem necessary to the full exploitation of intelligence products.

3. Recommendation: Approval of the request for six additional COMINT approvals for Treasury Department is recommended.


Robert W. Gambino

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